

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BUCHAREST 3769

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, SPOP, UNWPC

SUBJECT: WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE - ROMANIAN 30TH ANNIVERSARY
PARADE

FROM ACTING CHAIRMAN USDEL PETERSON

SUMMARY: IN ABSENCE OF HEW SECRETARY WEINBERGER WHO WAS IN GENEVA MEETING WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WHO, ACTING HEAD USDEL TO WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, RUSSELL W. PETERSON, CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, ATTENDED 5-HOUR ROMANIAN FESTIVAL DAY PARADE AND WAS ASKED TO JOIN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU TO REVIEW PARADE. DURING THAT PERIOD, PETERSON MET AND TALKED WITH THE PRESIDENT, PREMIER KOSYGIN, VICE PREMIER LI SIEN NIEN OF CHINA, MRS. CEAUSESCU, ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, MEXICAN MINISTER OF INTERIOR, AND INDIA'S MINISTER OF HEALTH. END SUMMARY.

1. AS ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, I ATTENDED THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROMANIAN LIBERATION FROM FASCIST DOMINATION. I WAS ADMITTED TO THE SECTION WHERE PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU REVIEWED THE PARADE. THE PARADE ITSELF WAS SPECTACULAR, INVOLVING 150,000 MARCHERS. A SURPRISINGLY LARGE MILITARY DISPLAY OF JETS, HELICOPTERS

,
LARGE ROCKETS, ROCKET LAUNCHERS, WIDE VARIETY OF TANKS AND ANTI-
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AIRCRAFT GUNS, ARTILLERY, AND PROBABLY 10,000 ARMY, NAVY, AND

AIR FORCE MEN. A CONTINGENT OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE 10-14 YEAR OLD BOYS AND GIRLS CARRIED GUNS. THERE WERE A LARGE NUMBER OF WOMEN MILITARY UNITS. THE BULK OF THE MARCHERS WERE GROUPS OF WORKERS AND ORDINARY CITIZENS. THE FINAL SECTION OF THE PARADE WAS AN IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY OF ATHLETIC GROUPS PLAYING BASKETBALL, SOCCER, RUGBY, VOLLEY BALL, TENNIS, AND BOXING AS THEY MARCHED.

2. THE PARADE WAS TO REPRESENT THREE HMHDMEEF:# (1) ROMANIA IS STRONG MILITARILY AND INTENDS TO REMAIN SO, (2) IT HAS A HIGHLY DEDICATED, HARD-WORKING, HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE WORK FORCE WHICH IS BEATING ITS GOALS FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIONS, (3) IT PRACTICES PHYSICAL FITNESS TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE.

3. FACING THE REVIEWING STAND WAS A BACKDROP OF 1500 SOLDIERS MOUNTED ON STEPS AND SERVING AS A CHORUS. IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THEM WAS A 600-PIECE BAND WHICH PERFORMED SPECTACULARLY AND KEPT UP THE CADENCE BEAT FOR THE FULL FIVE HOURS OF THE PARADE. PREMIER KOSYGIN OF RUSSIA AND VICE PREMIER LI SIEN NIEN OF CHINA WERE THE HONORED GUESTS AND FLANKED THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. CEAUSESCU.

4. I TALKED TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU FOR ATLEAST 15 MINUTES. HE WAS VERY WARM AND FRIENDLY AND EXPRESSED A STRONG INTEREST IN BUILDING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. HE WAS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN MY BACKGROUND IN RESEARCH IN PRODUCTION

AND ASKED ME A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE DUPONT CO. HE INVITED ME TO STAND BESIDE HIM IN THE REVIEWING STAND AND ENCOURAGED ME TO JOIN HIM IN WAVING AT THE PASSING MARCHERS, WHICH I DID.

SUBSEQUENTLY, I INTRODUCED MYSELF TO PREMIER KOSYGIN AND WE HAD ABOUT A 35-MINUTE CONVERSATION, THROUGH AN INTERPRETER. MIDWAY THROUGH THE CONVERSATION, I APOLOGIZED FOR MONOPOLIZING HIS TIME AND STARTED TO DEPART, BUT HE GRABBED MY ARM AND ASKED ME TO STAY BECAUSE HE WAS INTERESTED IN TALKING TO ME SOME MORE. HE WAS VERY FRIENDLY, FREQUENTLY PUTTING HIS ARM AROUND MY SHOULDER AND GRASPING MY HAND. IT IS EASY TO WARM UP TO HIM PERSONALLY. HE APPEARS TO HAVE A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR WITH A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE. HE KIDDED ME ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE DUPONT CO. AND MY PRESENT JOB WITH THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. "FIRST YOU WORK TO POLLUTE THE AIR AND WATER AND THEN YOU GET ASSIGNED TO CLEAN IT UP." CONFIDENTIAL

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I TOLD HIM THAT WE IN THE DELEGATION WERE TRYING TO JUDGE WHICH OF THE TWO SUPER POWERS GOT CLOBBERED MORE BY THE SPEAKERS. HE LAUGHED AND SAID WE SHOULD NOT GET TOO UPSET BY THE CHINESE EVEN THOUGH THEIR REMARKS ARE IRRITATING. HE SAID THAT THEY HAVE A HUGE POPULATION AND VERY POOR PEOPLE AND THE LEADERSHIP HAS PROBLEMS KEEPING THEM UNDER CONTROL, AND THEY FIND IT CONVENIENT TO PICTURE FOR THEIR PEOPLE THE U.S. AND USSR AS VILLIANS. I TOLD HIM THAT I WAS PLEASED WITH THE FACT THAT DETENTE WAS WORKING AND THAT OUR TWO COUNTIRES

COULD CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD IMPROVED RELATIONS AND EVEN BETTER HARMONY. HE SAID WE DID NOT HAVE ANY CHOICE AND HE ADDED, "I WANT TO SAY SINCERELY THAT ALL OF OUR NATION'S LEADERS AND PARTY LEADERS UNANIMOUSLY AGREE WITH THAT. THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE INTERDEPENDENT AND THIS MAKES IT INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FOR OUR TWO NATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER." I ASKED HIM WHAT HE THOUGHT OF OUR NEW LEADERSHIP IN WASHINGTON. HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH IT AND THAT HE THOUGHT PRESIDENT FORD HAD MADE A GOOD CHOICE IN SELECTING ROCKEFELLER. HE FELT ROCKEFELLER HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT HE WAS A VERY CAPABLE MAN WHO UNDERSTOOD WORLD PROBLEMS. HE THOUGHT ROCKEFELLER WOULD BE QUITE A DIFFERENT VICE PRESIDENT THAN OUR USUAL VICE PRESIDENTS -- THAT HE WOULD NOT BE SATISFIED TO SIT BACK AND TAKE SOME MINOR ROLE. HE ANTICIPATED THAT ROCKEFELLER WOULD PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

5. LATER, ASKED A CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE TO INTRODUCE ME TO VICE PREMIER LI SIEN NIEN, WHICH HE DID. WE TALKED FOR ABOUT 5 MINUTES. I TOLD HIM THAT I HOPED OUR COUNTRIES COULD CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARDS HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIPS. HE SAID HE HOPED SO TOO, AND THEN SAID, "WE SHALL COLLABORATE BUT WE SHALL NOT CONCEAL OUR VIEWPOINT." I SAID THAT I THOUGHT THAT PRESIDENT FORD AND VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER WOULD BE GOOD FRIENDS WITH CHINA. HE SAID THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD ALREADY EXPRESSED HIS FRIENDSHIP.

6. NOT ONCE DURING THE FIVE-HOUR PARADE DID I NOTICE ANY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN KOSYGIN AND LI SIEN NIEN IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THEY WERE ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF CEAUSESCU.

7. I TALKED AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH WITH MRS. CEAUSESCU SINCE WE ARE BOTH CHEMISTS AND WE HIT A COMMON WAVE LENGTH. I COMMENDED HER FOR THE FINE SPEECH SHE GAVE IN THE U.S. LAST YEAR WHEN SHE ADDRESSED THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTS. WE
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TALKED PRIMARILY ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. SHE MENTIONED ALSO THE IMPORTANCE TO ROMANIA OF THE GROWING TRADE AND CONTINUING FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AFTER I LEFT HER SHE SENT A PROTOCOL OFFICER TO ASK ME TO COME BACK AND ASKED ME IF I WOULD MEET WITH HER NEXT TUESDAY AFTERNOON TO TALK ABOUT SOME TECHNICAL MATTERS. I AGREED TO DO SO. SHE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

8. I HAD EARLIER SAID TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU THAT AS ACTING HEAD OF OUR DELEGATION I WANTED TO SAY ON BEHALF OF MY COUNTRY, CONGRATULATIONS TO HIM AND TO THE PEOPLE OF ROMANIA ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR LIBERATION. I ALSO WANT TO COMMEND THEM FOR THE MARKED PROGRESS THEY HAVE MADE IN THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

9. THE ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WHO IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE CAME AND SAT BY ME FOR THE

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BUCHAREST 3769

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LAST HOUR OF THE PARADE AND WAS VERY HELPFUL IN EXPLAINING
WHAT WAS GOING ON. WE TALKED ABOUT THE POPULATION CONFERENCE.
I BELIEVE HE IS SINCERELY INTERESTED IN THE CONFERENCE ADOPT-
ING A PLAN OF ACTION CLOSE TO THAT WHICH WAS SUBMITTED BY THE
SECRETARIAT. HE APPEARED MORE INTERESTED IN THE CONFERENCE
BEING RECOGNIZED AS AN IMPORTANT HISTORIC ONE THAN IN THE
SPECIFICS. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO TALKED ABOUT ROMANIAN
SATISFACTION OVER THE GROWING TRADE WITH THE U.S.

10. I INTRODUCED MYSELF TO THE MEXICAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR
MR. MARIO MOYA PALENCIA. HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED
BY THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., DE OCCOQUI, TO LOOK ME
UP WHILE HE WAS IN BUCHAREST. MOYA PALENCIA AND DE OCCOQUI
WERE CLASSMATES AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE VERY CLOSE FRIENDS. I
COMMENDED THE MINISTER FOR THE SPEECH HE GAVE AT THE CONFERENCE
AND FOR THE LEADERSHIP HE PROVIDED IN MEXICO AND MARKEDLY REVISING
THE POPULATION POLICY. HE RE-EMPHASIZED THAT MEXICO'S 3.5 PERCENT
POPULATION GROWTH RATE COUPLED WITH ITS MANY CURRENT PROBLEMS
MADE IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THEY DO ALL THEY CAN TO
REDUCE POPULATION GROWTH. HE NOTED THAT EVEN IF THEY
COULD REDUCE THEIR BIRTH RATES TO THE REPLACEMENT LEVEL
MEXICO'S POPULATION WOULD AT LEAST TRIPLE. IT IS MY IMPRESSION
THAT THIS MAN IS AN UNUSUALLY TALENTED AND DEDICATED PERSON.
HE SAID HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S APPOINTMENT

OF NELSON ROCKEFELLER AS VICE PRESIDENT, BECAUSE ROCKEFELLER
WAS A PROVEN AND STRONG FRIEND OF LATIN AMERICA.

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11. DR. KARAN SINGH, HEAD OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION AND MINISTER
OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, REPORTED THAT HIS MEETING LAST
NIGHT WITH SENATOR PERCY AND GENERAL DRAPER, AND HIS MEETING
WITH GENERAL DRAPER AND ME YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, WERE VERY HELP-
FUL TO HIM. HE REITERATED HIS EARLIER STATEMENT TO ME THAT
INDIA DID NOT WANT TO BE OBLIGATED TO ANY INDIVIDUAL NATION
SUCH AS THE U.S. FOR HER BIRTH CONTROL SUPPLIES. HE DID NOT
WANT TO GO THROUGH THE VERY DIFFICULT JOB OF SELLING THE WOMEN
OF INDIA ON USING PILLS AND THEN FIND FOR SOME REASON AT
A LATTER DATE THAT THE SUPPLY OF PILLS WOULD BE CUT OFF OR
THREATENED. INDIA IS PUSHING RESEARCH TO DEVELOP HER OWN
PILL. HE SAID THAT COUNTRY THAT CAN DEVELOP ITS OWN ATOMIC
BOMB FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES CERTAINLY HAD THE CREATIVITY AND
WHEREWITHAL TO DEVELOP A CONTRACEPTIVE PILL. HE WOULD LIKE,
HOWEVER, TO OBTAIN THROUGH A MULTI-LATERAL ORGANIZATION,
PREFERABLY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, ABOUT 12 MILLION
UNITS (MONTHLY SUPPLY) OF PILLS TO TIDE THEM OVER UNTIL THEY
CAN DEVELOP THEIR OWN PRODUCTION. HE WAS PLEASED WITH SENATOR
PERCY AND RECOGNIZED THAT GENERAL DRAPER HAD MADE A MAJOR WORLD-
WIDE CONTRIBUTION TO FAMILY PLANNING.

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